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LETTER DATED 23 APRIL 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF DENMARK TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text in English and French of a statement on Angola issued by the European Community and its Member States on 23 April 1993.

I should be grateful, if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Bent HAAKONSEN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Denmark
to the United Nations

93-23831 (E) 260493 260493

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Annex

[Original: English and French]

Statement from the Community and its Member States on Angola

More than half a year has passed since the first multiparty elections took place in Angola, as an outstanding achievement of the process that began with the signing of the Bicesse Accords in May 1991. Contrary to the expectations of those who participated enthusiastically in them and of those who observed and found them as having been generally free and fair, their significance for the future of the country has ever since been overshadowed by the outbreak of hostilities, violence and destruction on a scale yet unknown, in spite of the increasing efforts of the international community to convince UNITA to accept the outcome of the elections.

The Community and its member States reaffirm their belief that democracy and its inherent values of tolerance and respect for human rights are the only means of overcoming differences and reconciling the Angolan nation. Therefore the Bicesse Peace Agreement and the institutions formed on the basis of the results of the elections and legality must strongly be supported against all adversity be it military, ideological, financial or otherwise, internal or external. United Nations Security Council resolutions 804 and 811 must be complied with.

The Community and its member States welcome that the Government of Angola and UNITA have opened negotiations in Abidjan under the auspices of the United Nations. They express their strong wish that these negotiations will result in a peaceful solution to the Angolan conflict leading to national unity and reconciliation. There is a need for a re-establishment of the cease-fire and an immediate cessation of all hostilities.

The Community and its member States are extremely concerned with the humanitarian situation in Angola. The United Nations has issued a strong appeal for humanitarian assistance. We are prepared to provide humanitarian assistance to the millions of Angolans who are the tragic victims of the fighting. In this context, the Community and its member States recall that they consider it unacceptable to make relief operations dependent on any conditions and that they consider that all sides have an obligation to ensure that the humanitarian aid reaches the population in need, irrespective of under whose control the areas concerned happen to be.